

Remarks

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the Figure 6, element 314, line 3, of the drawings because of the inclusion of "INAGE". Included with this office action response is an amended drawing, labeled as a "REPLACEMENT SHEET" in which "INAGE" is replaced with "IMAGE" in Figure 6, element 314, line 3. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

Objection to Claim 20

The Examiner has objected to claim 20 for recitation of limitations inconsistent with those in claim 18. The Applicant has amended claim 20 to recite limitations that are consistent. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claim 20.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 13, 15, 18, and 20 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) with respect to United States patent number 5,864,408 issued to Kumashiro, hereinafter referred to as Kumashiro, in view of United States patent number 6,369,918 issued to Tom et al, hereinafter referred to as Tom. The Applicant respectfully requests careful consideration of the explanation provided below regarding the rejections of claims 13, 15, 18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Rejection of Claims 13 and 15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that valid prima facie obviousness rejections of claims 13 and 15 with respect to Kumashiro and Tom are present and respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections. However, in the interest of expeditiously advancing prosecution, the Applicant has amended rejected claim 13 to include limitations that the Applicant

believes the Examiner has suggested are related to allowable subject matter in item 7 on pages 9-10 of the office action mailed on January 11, 2007. Therefore, for at least this reason, the Applicants respectfully submit that a valid prima facie anticipation rejection with respect to the amended claims 13 is not present. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 15 has been canceled rendering the rejection of this claim moot. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Rejection of Claims 18 and 20 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that valid prima facie obviousness rejections of claims 18 and 20 with respect to Kumashiro and Tom are present and respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections. However, in the interest of expeditiously advancing prosecution, the Applicant has amended rejected claims 18 and 20 to include limitations that the Applicant believes the Examiner has suggested are related to allowable subject matter in item 7 on pages 10-11 of the office action mailed on January 11, 2007. Therefore, for at least this reason, the Applicants respectfully submit that valid prima facie anticipation rejections with respect to the amended claims 18 and 20 are not present. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Objections to Claims 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 22

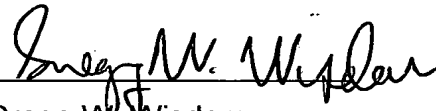
The Examiner has objected to claims 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 22 as reciting allowable subject matter but dependent upon rejected claims. The Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments made to claims 14, 16, 17, 21, and 22 the objections to these claims have been overcome. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections to claims 14, 16, 17, 21, and 22. Claim 19 has been canceled rendering the objection to this claim moot. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the

objection to claim 19.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully submit that claims are in a condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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